

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the following:

DE. Apparatus and method for facilitating selection of a program to view by allowing a user to recognize recorded program contents in a short period of time. The apparatus and method provides to a user broadcasting contents summary information obtained by summarizing the broadcasting contents information. The apparatus includes user authentication means for receiving authentication information and authenticating the user of the broadcasting contents summary information. The apparatus also includes summary playback information storage means, additional screen information storage means, summary playback information search means, summary contents shortening means, and summary playback distribution means.